

# The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust

Report and financial statements  
For the year ended 31st May 2025

# **The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust**

## **Reference and administrative information**

**for the year ended 31st May 2025**

**Charity number** 1096755

**Registered office and operational address**

93 Silverdale Road

Yealand Redmayne

Carnforth

LA5 9TD

**Trustees**

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of

this report were as follows:

Natasha Twigg Chair

Ian Taylor Secretary

Rebecca Oaks

Jack Holden

Lorna Singleton

Edward Acland

Tony Morgan

Jon Scragg

**Bankers**

Santander

Customer Service Centre

Bootle, L30 4GB

**Independent**

**Examiner**

Helen Shaklady

# **The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust**

## **Trustees' annual report**

### **for the year ended 31st May 2025**

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st May 2025.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the charity's constitution.

## **Objectives and activities**

As stated in our constitution our objectives are:

- i.** The advancement of education in traditional coppice skills for the public benefit by the establishment and running of an apprenticeship scheme.
- ii.** To promote the conservation of the physical and natural environment in particular by promoting biodiversity and the better management of broad-leaved woodland through traditional coppice skills.

The Bill Hogarth (MBE) Memorial Apprenticeship Trust was set up in memory of the late, widely known and respected Cumbrian coppice merchant Bill Hogarth MBE who died in 1999. Bill learned his trade from his father and worked as a coppice merchant in Cumbria for 56 years. Apprentices are placed with a main sponsor (or shared by part time sponsors) and fulfil the main requirement of the BHMAT Diploma of 32 hours a week working within a coppice business over three years. The apprentice learns the skills of coppicing and certain greenwood crafts from their sponsor. S/he also has a budget for specialist training (in further greenwood crafts not offered by the sponsor, as well as in business, first aid and chainsaw skills). Apprentices also have a tool budget, a travel budget, and a small monthly bursary to help them as they progress through the scheme.

We run a recruitment event each year entitled Woodland Pioneers where we train up to 6 apprentices, taking on 2 each year if funding and a suitable placement is available.

Each year, apprentices are asked to put together a portfolio of their learning which forms part of their assessment. They also have practical assessments which are carried out by their sponsors and an oral assessment carried out by BHMAT members at the end of each year. Administration and support with coursework is supported by our BHMAT apprentice officer.

By the end of the 3 years, each apprentice has the skills and contacts to set up their own coppicing business.

Without trained coppice workers in place, the key benefits that coppicing can provide of an essential habitat niche for many woodland species, a specialised timber supply for many heritage and niche woodland crafts and a vibrant living woodland for the benefit of the wider public to enjoy, will not exist.

We believe that our work providing trained coppice workers who can manage our woodlands, meets the Charity Commission's guidance on providing public benefit.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

## **Achievements and performance**

The charity's main activities and who it tries to help are described below. All its charitable activities focus on the advancement of education in traditional coppice skills for the public benefit by the establishment and running of an apprenticeship scheme and to promote the conservation of the physical and natural environment in particular by promoting biodiversity and better management of broad-leaved woodland through traditional coppice skills and are undertaken to further The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

# **The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust**

## **Trustees' annual report**

### **for the year ended 31st May 2025**

#### **Chair's Report**

*The 2024 AGM was held on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 at Wheatsheaf Inn, Beetham.*

*We held Executive Committee meetings on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, August 25<sup>th</sup>, January 15<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>. All meetings held in person.*

#### **Executive Committee**

*An executive committee was formed with 8 trustees Twiggy (Chair), Ian Taylor (Secretary) Rebecca Oaks, Edward Acland, Tony Morgan, Lorna Singleton, Jack Holden and Jon Scragg. Edward Mills and John Gibbs (Treasurer) are co-opted onto the committee.*

#### **Announcements**

*I would like to thank the committee for all its continued support, especially Kath, Ian and John for all their help and gentle reminders.*

*Lorna Singleton has stepped down from being a trustee this Year. Thank you Lorna for your contribution to the committee.*

*The Committee decided to change banks to the Co-op Bank after Santander was to start charging for the current account. It was decided the Co-op bank were more aligned with our charity and we have opened a Co-op Bank account thanks to everyone one this as it wasn't an easy exercise!*

*We have been given another pot of funding from the JC for the apprenticeship. Part of this is to enable us to get the southern placements going.*

#### **Apprentices**

*Andrew finished in January and was presented with his BHMAT Certificate at the Apprentice gathering after WITW. We wish him well in his ventures in Sheffield and he is now Mentor to Lucy.*

*Gordo is in his third year and doing well with all his sponsors. He cut a hazel coupe at MAHS as part of his 2<sup>nd</sup> year woodland management assessment. Has been doing some timber frame projects of his own and looking to move back to Scotland and setting up his business there.*

*Leo has been busy with several different people up in the NE. He is still doing some days at Woodsmith and with Ruth he is doing willow workshops and cutting hazel. He's just run his first carving course at Bearsden and looking to run more. He's making charcoal with Kess of Northumbrian Forestry. He will be cutting a coupe with Dylan in MAHS.*

*Dylan has just completed his 1<sup>st</sup> year. He has managed his time well between Twiggy and Co op. He has done plenty of cutting, demos and teaching as well as the charcoal and firewood. He will be cutting in MAHS this year with Leo.*

*Lucy is doing well with the Leeds Coppice Workers. She has just finished her windblown trees and assisted felling..*

#### **Specialist Training**

*Ian is organising some chainsaw refresher courses with John at MAHS for graduates and sponsors who need it.*

#### **Moss and Heights Spring Wood**

*The firewood coupe was felled by Sam R, Duncan, Jon, Mike and Ian. Helen did a coupe on it's way to being a hazel coupe so layering some of the hazel. There was lots of birch but not much usable coppice material, well done for taking on volunteers as well. So thanks to all involved. Coupes this year are to be cut by Dylan and Leo, hazel coupe previously cut by Dave N. Firewood coupe opposite the coupe cut last year.*

#### **Public Profile**

*The shows where the information boards were taken were Arley Hall Flower show, Beacon Green Fayre, Chorley Flower Show, Betley Show, Westmorland Show and events for Southway Housing(Manchester).*

*Twiggy spoke at a forestry apprentice event in Manchester.*

#### **Tool Bank**

*Tool bank held with Edward Acland at Sprint Mill.*

#### **National Coppice Apprenticeship**

*We have decided to cut ties with the Smallwoods Apprenticeship scheme as after a few years of trying to align it just wasn't working. We will still keep in touch and help where we can and hope in the future it may become workable, but we are for the time being going to be running the national coppice apprentices through BHMAT.*

#### **Woodland Pioneers**

*A great week this year back at the Silverhelm Scout site at Silverdale. All places booked. The returners courses were bowl turning rush bags and willow baskets with leather strap framing and rustic furniture making. | It was great to catch up with everybody and to have Lyn and Mike doing the catering. A big thank you to Sue for the delicious cakes. It went incredibly well and the weather was kind to us. Andrew did his end of year presentation which went down a treat. Thanks all involved for making it a fab week.*

#### **Newsletter**

*Not this year.*

#### **Website**

*Thanks to Tony Morgan for updating and managing the site.*

#### **Financial review**

In the financial year ending 31st May 2025, we spent £40,632 and received £47,062 giving a surplus of £6430. The major income sources in the year were donations from private individuals, grants from DEFRA and the National Coppice Association and payments for the Woodland Pioneers events. The charity held £67,022 in unrestricted funds at the end of the year.

#### **Reserves policy**

BHMAT does not consider it necessary to hold a reserve as we are a very small charity and have set budgets for our apprentices and only recruit when we can afford to do so.

# **The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust**

## **Trustees' annual report**

### **for the year ended 31st May 2025**

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The organisation is an unincorporated charity, registered as a charity on 19th January 2001 in England and Wales.

The charity is constituted under a constitution dated 19th January 2001. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Executive Committee members not to be personally interested.

1. Subject to the provisions of sub-clause 2 of this clause no member of the Executive Committee shall acquire any interest in property belonging to the Charity (otherwise than as a trustee for the Charity) or receive remuneration or be interested (otherwise than as a member of the Executive Committee) in any contract entered into by the Executive Committee.
2. Any member of the Executive Committee for the time being who is a solicitor, accountant or other person engaged in a profession may charge and be paid all the usual professional charges for business done by him or her or his or her firm when instructed by other members of the Executive Committee to act in a professional capacity on behalf of the Charity, provided that at no time shall a majority of the members of the Executive Committee benefit under this provision and that members of the Executive Committee shall withdraw from any meeting at which his or her own instruction or remuneration or that of his or her firm is under discussion.
3. The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than 3 members nor more than 9 members being:
  - a) The honorary officers specified in the preceding clause.
  - b) Not less than 0 and not more than 6 members elected at the Annual General Meeting who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting.

The Executive Committee may in addition appoint not more than 3 co-opted members, but so that no one may be appointed as a co-opted member if as a result more than one third of the members of the Executive Committee would be co-opted members.
4. All the members of the Executive Committee shall retire from office together at the end of the Annual General Meeting next after the date on which they came into office but they may be re-elected or re-appointed.
5. The proceedings of the Executive Committee shall not be invalidated by any vacancy among their number or by any failure to appoint or any defect in the appointment or qualification of a member.
6. Nobody shall be appointed as a member of the Executive Committee who is under 18 years or who would if appointed be disqualified under the provisions of the following clause:
7. No person shall be entitled to act as a member of the Executive Committee whether on a first or on any subsequent entry into office until after signing in the minute book of the Executive Committee a declaration of acceptance and of willingness to act in the trust of the Charity.
8. Nominations for elections to the Executive Committee must be made by members of the Charity in writing and must be in the hands of the Executive Committee at least 14 days before the annual general meeting. Should nominations exceed vacancies, election shall be by ballot.

**The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust**  
**Trustees' annual report**  
**for the year ended 31st May 2025**

**Statement of responsibilities of the trustees**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities' SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice)
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 21/01/26 and signed on their behalf by



Natasha Twigg  
Trustee

**The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust**  
**Trustees' annual report**  
**for the year ended 31st May 2025**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st May 2025 which are set out on page 8.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act;
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

3. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:  
to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and  
to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
4. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Helen Shacklady

HELEN SHACKLADY

11 TOWER ST, ULVERSTON

CUMBRIA LA12 9AN

5 February 2026

Signed  
Independent Examiner  
Name

Address

Date

**The Bill Hogarth MBE Memorial Apprenticeship Trust**  
**Trustees' annual report**  
**for the year ended 31st May 2025**

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year income
Receipts	£	£	£
Donations	£0.00	£5,760	£5,100
Grants Restricted	£0.00		£7,920
Grants Unrestricted		£16,840	£1,943 (£9,863 total grants)
Course Fees (1 <sup>st</sup> Aid)		£175	
Woodland Pioneers (WP24 and WP25)		£24,279	£16,938
Other Income - Books - Shop Sales		£8	£17
Total Receipts all funds		£47,062	£31,918
<b>Payments</b>		£	£
Woodland Pioneers (WP24 and WP25)		£15,414	£11,925
Apprentice Spend Unrestricted		£16,671	£11,624
Apprentice Spend Restricted (Leo F.)	£6,298		£2,030
BHMAT Events Insurance		£442	£411
Other Training (apps gathering)		£560	£0
Administration & Accounting		£1,008	£766
Moss & HS Woods		£240	£648
Equipment & Tools		£0	£0
Total unrestricted Payments		£34,335	£25,374
Plus Restricted		£6,298	£2,030
<b>Total all Payments</b>		<b>£40,632</b>	<b>£27,404</b>
All Receipts less Payments		£6,430	£4,514
	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>
Cash Funds last year end b/f	£10,465	b/f £51,749	b/f £62,214
Cash Funds this year end c/f	£4,157	c/f £64,487	c/f £68,644
		<b>Total of all funds restricted and unrestricted c/f</b>	<b>c/f £68,644</b>